**PATENT** 

(Docket No. 12053-D10)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

WILLIAM HIATT ET AL.

Serial No.: NEW

Filed: HEREWITH

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR THE

TREATMENT OF SOOT-LADEN

WATER

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 900587824US

Group Art Unit: 1724

Examiner: CHESTER BARRY

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as Express Mail addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 22, 2004.

Lori D. Hass

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.115

Mailstop Patent Applications Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reference to the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following amendment and consider the accompanying remarks prior to examination thereof on the merits.